

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00064 161153Z

21

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EB-03 H-01 INR-07 L-01 PM-03

PRS-01 SP-02 SAB-01 SAM-01 OES-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1887

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 0064

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ENRG LY

SUBJECT: MORE ON LIFTING OF LIBYAN OIL EMBARGO

REF: TRIPOLI 22

1. A RELIABLE OIL COMPANY SOURCE HAS EXPLAINED TO US SEQUENCE OF EVENTS WHICH LED TO LIFTING OF LIBYAN EMBARGO ON OIL EXPORTS TO U.S. HE SAYS THAT ABOUT DECEMBER 10, OASIS CONSORTIUM OPERATING HERE WAS GIVEN PERMISSION BY MINISTER OF PETROLEUM MABROUK TO SHIP CRUDE DIRECTLY TO AMERADA-HESS OWNED REFINERY IN VIRGIN ISLANDS. AMERADA-HESS HAS ONE SIXTH SHARE IN AMERICAN FORTY-NINE PERCENT OF OASIS. COMPANY OFFICIALS WERE SWORN TO SECRECY BY MABROUK, AND INITIALLY PERMISSION WAS ONLY GIVEP FOR CRUDE TO GO TO AMERADA-HESS REFWERY. THIS ARRANGEMENT LASTED ABOUT TWO WEEKS, AND WORD OF IT DID NOT LEAK OUT. AROUND CHRISTMAS, OASIS WAS TOLD BY MABROUK THAT THEY COULD SHIP TO ANY PORT IN U.S., OASIS CABLED OFFERS TO REFINERIES IN U.S., AND SECRET WAS OUT. OTHER MAJORS THEN ASKED FOR EQUAL TREATMENT, AND WERE SEPARATELY TOLD BY MABROUK THAT EMBARGO HAD BEEN LIFTED. THEY WERE CAUTIONED NOT TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH ANYONE (IN PARTICULAR ANY-
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PAGE 02 TRIPOL 00064 161153Z

ONE FROM USG, PRESUMABLY), AND ALSO TOLD THAT THERE

WOULD BE NOTHING IN WRITING, AND NO PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT.

2. IT IS CLEAR FROM THIS THAT IDEA OF ASKING FOR
POLITICAL CREDIT FROM US FOR LIFTING EMBARGO DID
NOT OCCUR TO LIBYANS UNTIL THREE WEEKS AFTER
EMBARGO FIRST PARTIALLY LIFTED, AND AFTER NEWS HAD
LEAKED TO LONDON TIMES AND OIL INDUSTRY PRESS
(TRIPOLI 15).
STEIN

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